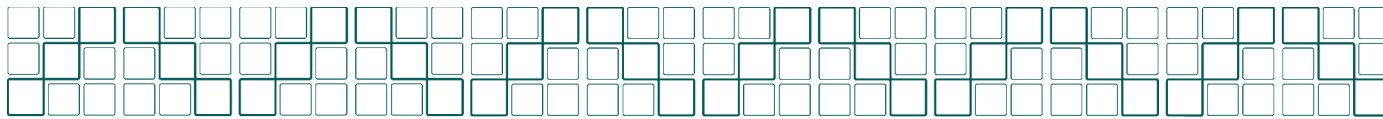
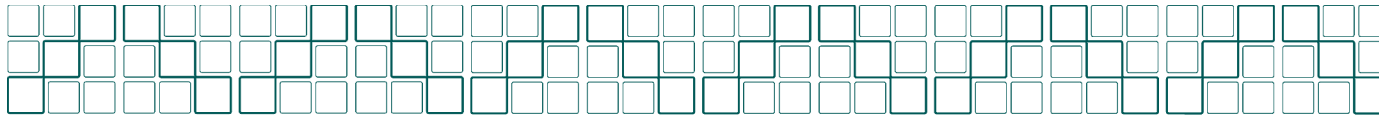

Filling out the AMCAS Application

William J. Higgins



Remember three things:

- YOUR objective or purpose
- The objective of the document
- Impact of a first impression



AMCAS

<https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/>

American Medical College
Application Service

AMCAS

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AMCAS® is a program
of the Association of American Medical Colleges

Considering
a Medical Career

Applying
to Medical School

Succeeding
as a Medical Student

Managing
Your Residency

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How to Apply

FAQ

Participating Medical Schools

Medical School Deadlines

American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS®)



Welcome to the American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS) Web site. AMCAS is a non-profit, centralized application processing service that is only available to applicants to the first-year entering classes at participating U.S. medical schools. Most medical schools use AMCAS as the primary application method. Advanced standing and transfer applicants should contact the medical schools directly for assistance.

Regardless of the number of medical schools to which you apply, you submit just one online application to AMCAS. AMCAS does not render any admission decisions and does not advise applicants where to apply.

Sign in to the AMCAS Application

The AMCAS application year corresponds to the year you would matriculate to medical school. Use the 2012 AMCAS application if you would begin medical school in the fall of 2012.

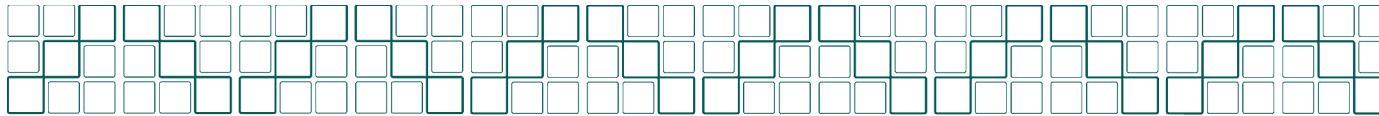
First-Time Applicants

2011 AMCAS Sign In

AMCAS for Admission Officers
Learn about AMCAS products and services for medical schools, including technical resources and important communications.

Pre-Health Advisors
Access the **AAMC Advisor Information System** , **AMCAS Letter Writer Application** , and more.


Fee Assistance Program
For AMCAS applicants and MCA examinees with extreme financial need.



<http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/start.htm>

American Medical College
Application Service

AMCAS

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Support for AMCAS 2010

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The Official Guide to the MCAT® Exam

Questions taken from real MCAT exams, thoroughly explained answers, and valuable applicant data.

AMCAS - The American Medical College Application Service

The American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) is a non-profit, centralized application processing service for applicants to the first-year entering classes at participating U.S. medical schools. For the 2011 entering class, [most medical schools](#) are participating in AMCAS.

AMCAS does not render any admission decisions and does not advise applicants where to apply. Each participating school is completely autonomous in reaching its admissions decisions. AMCAS provides only the application processing service. The AAMC and AMCAS neither endorse, nor have any relationship to, commercial counseling services concerned with admission to either U.S. or foreign medical schools.

Regardless of the number of AMCAS schools to which you apply, you submit just one application to AMCAS via the Web. You must also request an official transcript from each college of registration in the United States and Canada. AMCAS then assembles your application file, verifies it and forwards the application to your designated medical schools. AMCAS also sends your MCAT scores for tests taken since April 1991, provided you have released them to AMCAS.

Applicants to medical schools that do not participate in AMCAS, as well as all advanced standing and transfer applicants, should contact schools directly for application instructions. You should also contact schools directly for application information regarding joint or special programs, such as B.A./M.D., M.D./Ph.D., M.D./J.D., etc. [More about AMCAS >>](#)

Related Resources

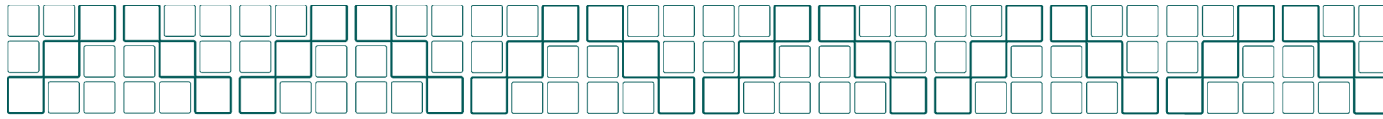
Apply Now!
Start or continue your AMCAS 2011 application.
[AMCAS 2011 Login](#)

AMCAS 2011 Instruction Book

FAQs
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

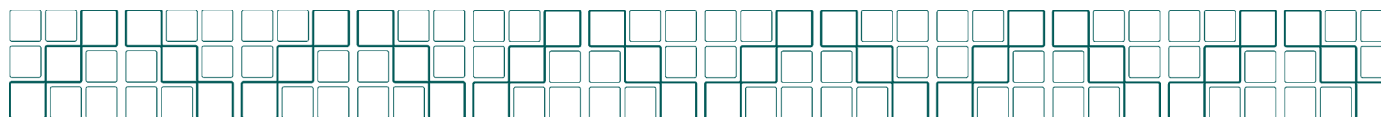
Fee Assistance Program
For AMCAS applicants and MCAT® examinees with extreme financial need.
[More >>](#)

Criminal Background Checks
[About the AAMC-Facilitated Background Check Service](#)

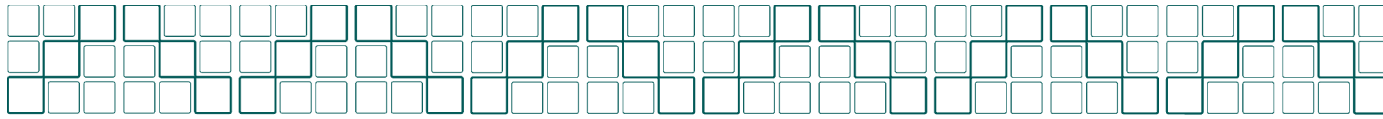


You MUST read:

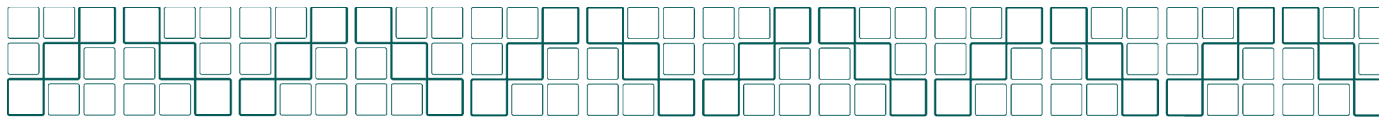
*[http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/
2012amcasinstructions.pdf](http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/2012amcasinstructions.pdf)*



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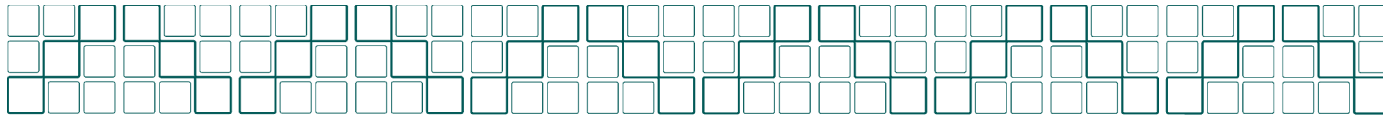


*I promise I will submit
my AMCAS before
15 June!*



AMCAS and Your Email

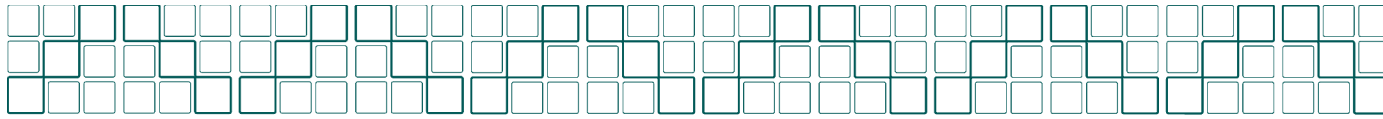
- Supply an email account you actually use and check daily
- Be sure AMCAS is not labeled as *JUNK*
- Use one that is not cluttered with 100 emails/day
- Use an appropriate login ID and password
- Monitor the status of your account almost daily!



PC User ?

- Internet Explorer 5.5, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0
- Netscape 7
- Firefox 1.02, 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 3.5, 3.6

See page 14 of the AMCAS Instruction manual

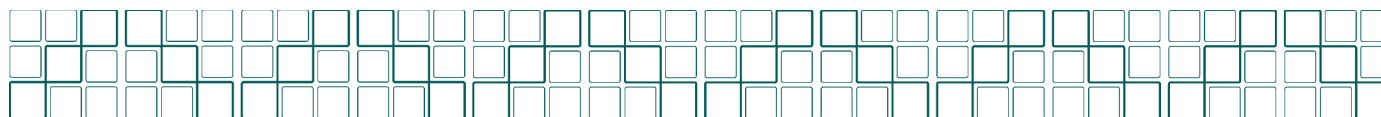


Mac User ?


- Mozilla Firefox 1.0.2, 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 3.5, 3.6
- Internet Explorer 5.1.7, 5.2
- Netscape 7

Note: not Safari

See page 14 of the AMCAS Instruction manual



American Medical College
Application Service
AMCAS

**AAMC**

1

MAIN MENU

Help

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Log Off

22012 Application

Lmwny K. Gpolwe (Development) | AAMC ID: 13130013

3

1. Identifying information

2. Schools attended

3. Biographic information

4. Course work

5. Work/activities

6. Letters of evaluation

7. Medical schools

8. Essay(s)

9. Standardized tests

4

MAIN MENU

ACCOUNT INFO

Applicant: Lmwny K. Gpolwe

AAMC ID: 13130013

Status: Not Submitted to
AMCAS
[Details](#)

5

Application Sections

1 Identifying Information	Incomplete
2 Schools Attended	Incomplete
3 Biographic Information	Incomplete
4 Course Work	Incomplete
5 Work/Activities	Incomplete
6 Letters of Evaluation	Incomplete
7 Medical Schools	Incomplete
8 Essay(s)	Incomplete
9 Standardized Tests	Incomplete

6

Submit Application

Print Application

Print Transcript Request Form

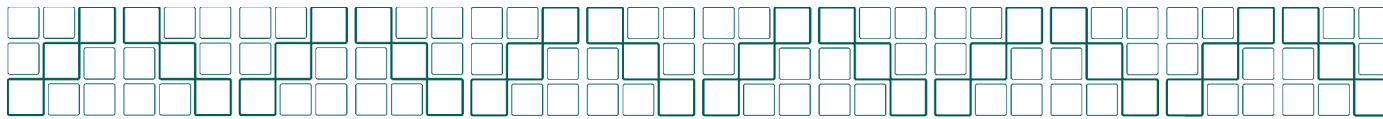
Print Letter Request Forms

Academic Change Request

Edit Password

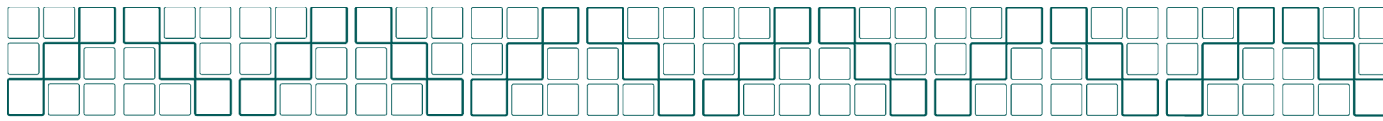
Withdraw Application

Contact Us © 1995-2011 AAMC Terms and Conditions Privacy Statement

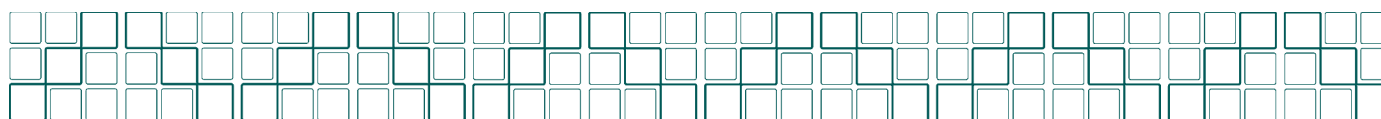


Issue: Matching official transcripts (OT's) with your application

1. Applicants should not send transcripts prior to the opening of the AMCAS application.
2. Once the application is open, complete the Identifying and Schools Attended sections of the application.
3. Applicants should submit a Transcript Request Form, available in the AMCAS application, to their registrar* and request that this form be included along with the official transcript.



AMCAS requires that applicants submit official transcripts from all U.S. and Canadian post-secondary institutions, regardless of which school(s) accepted this credit.



AMCAS 2011 Instructions

Section Four: Course Work

Behavioral & Social Sciences (BESS) Anthropology Economics Family Studies Psychology Sociology	Health Sciences (HEAL) Allied Health Chiropractic Dentistry Hearing & Speech Sciences Hospital Administration Kinesiology Medical Technology Medicine Nursing Nutrition & Food Sciences Occupational Therapy Optometry Osteopathy Physical Therapy Physician Assistant Public Health Pharmacology &	Engineering (ENGI) Aerospace Engineering Biomedical Engineering Chemical Engineering Civil Engineering Electrical Engineering Engineering Environmental Engineering Mechanical Engineering Nuclear Engineering English Language & Literature (ENGL) Composition & Rhetoric Creative Writing Literature Fine Arts (ARTS)	MATH (MATH) - BCPM Applied Mathematics Mathematics Statistics Natural/Physical Sciences (NPSC) Agriculture Animal and Avian Sciences Environmental Policy Environmental Science Forestry Geography Geology Horticulture Landscape Architecture Meteorology Natural Resources
Biology (BIOL) - BCPM Anatomy Biology Biophysics Biotechnology Botany Cell Biology Ecology Entomology Genetics			



AMCAS 2012 Instruction Manual

Section Five: Work and Activities

The Work and Activities section of the application is designed to give you the opportunity to include in your application any work experience, extracurricular activities, awards, honors, or publications that you would like to bring to the attention of the medical schools to which you are applying. *A maximum of fifteen (15) experiences may be entered.*

Enter only significant experiences, knowing that medical schools are more interested in quality than quantity. Enter each experience only once. Repeated experiences should also be entered only once. For example, an applicant who makes the Dean's List each term should enter this only once, noting in the description that this occurred multiple times.

Work and activities will appear on your application in chronological order and cannot be rearranged. Medical schools will be able to sort your activities in any order they choose to view them.

This section cannot be edited or updated after the original submission of your application.

<http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/2012amcasinstructions.pdf>

Note: If you plan to cut and paste your experience description into the application, you should draft your information in plain text, preferably in text-only word processing software, such as Microsoft Notepad. Copying formatted or rich text into the application may result in formatting issues that cannot be edited once your application is submitted.

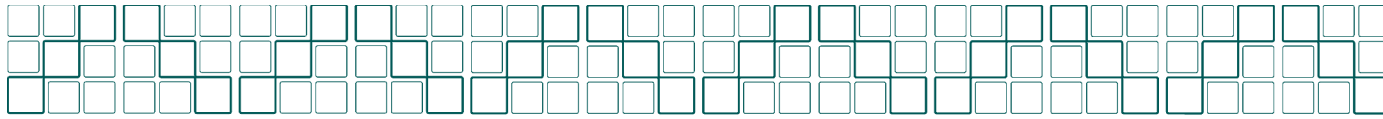
Most Meaningful Experiences

You may identify up to three (3) experiences that you consider to be the most meaningful. If you have two or more entries, you will be required to identify at least one (1) as the most meaningful. When you designate an activity as being Most Meaningful, you will be given an additional 1325 characters to explain why. When writing your response, you might want to consider the transformative nature of the experience, the impact you made while engaging in the activity, and the personal growth you experienced as a result of your participation.

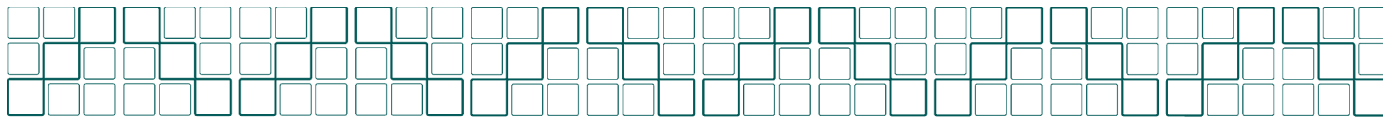
You may change which experience(s) you designate Most Meaningful until the initial submission of your application.

Note: If you remove an experience from those that you have designated Most Meaningful, the text you entered in the Experience Summary will be lost.

Note: If you plan to cut and paste your experience description into the application, you should draft your information in plain text, preferably in text-only word processing software, such as Microsoft Notepad. Copying formatted or rich text into the application may result in formatting issues that cannot be edited once your application is submitted.

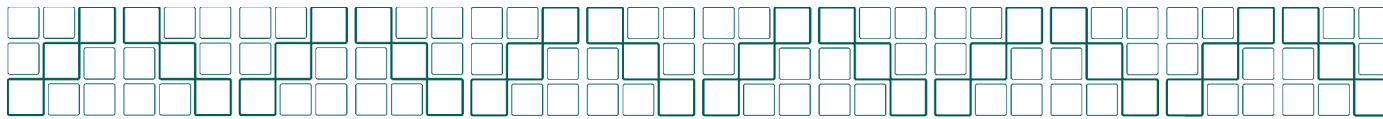


Most Meaningful and your Personal Statement



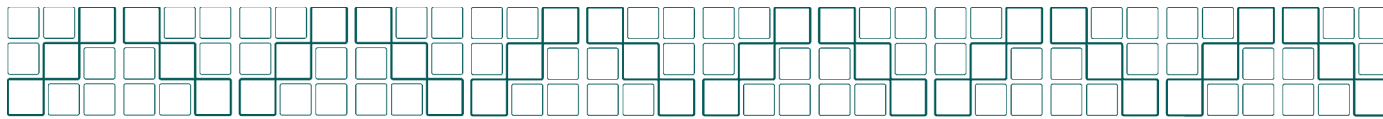
Format of your entries

- Properly formatted and punctuated!
- Be consistent!
 - Bulleted list for similar items within one category
 - Narrative
 - Narrative with supplemental list
- Use English!
- Avoid jargon and acronyms
- Be descriptive



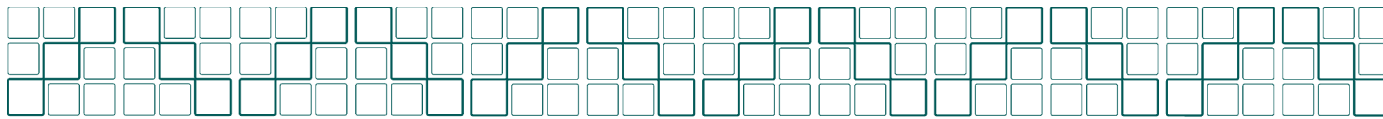
Work / Activities Issues:

- Applicants create multiple entries for repeated experiences.
- Poorly written and not edited
- Failure to point out significance or impact



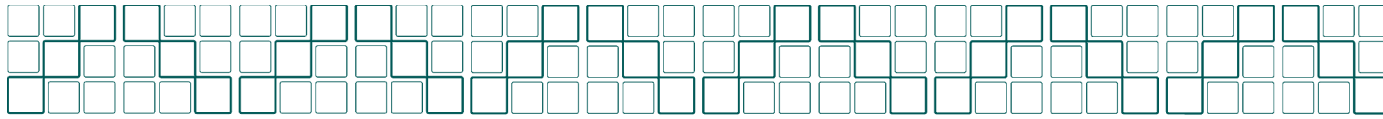
Assembling your list

- Compose a detailed list of each event, activity, and position
 - No high school years
- Remembering the purpose, rank them in terms of significance for the profession and personal meaning
- Combine as appropriate
- 1325 characters = 1/4 page



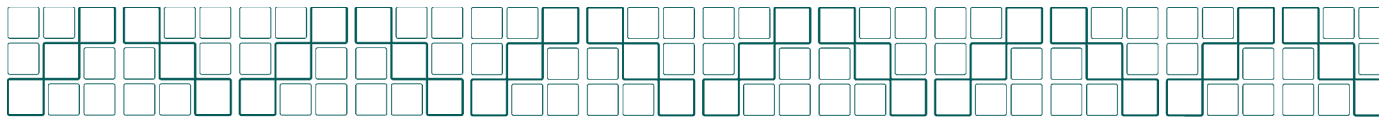
Grouping similar items

- You do not need to use all 15 slots!
 - Brevity is next to godliness.....
- Similar academic awards should be grouped
- If in doubt: What makes these items significantly different or outstanding?
 - You do not want to over emphasize minimally important items.



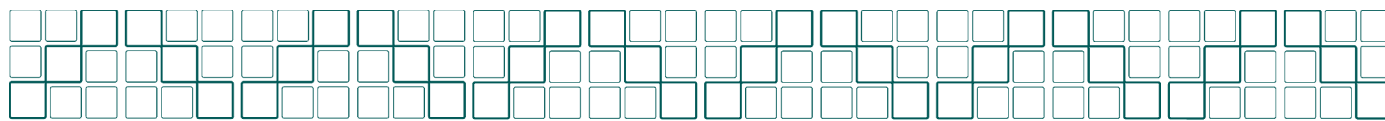
List your academic awards together

- Dean's List
- Scholarships
- All other University level academic and service based awards



Research Experiences

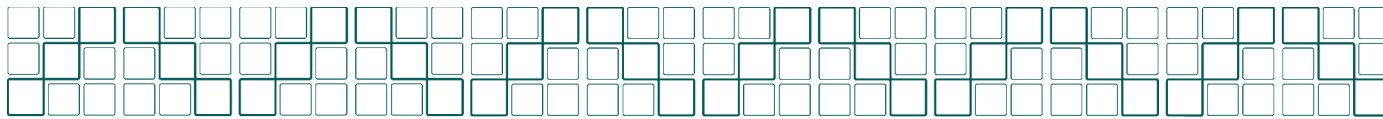
- What to say?
 - Identify the lab and Lab Chief
 - What's the big question?
 - What's your question or hypothesis?
 - Explain rationale & significance
 - Publications?
- Methods or techniques are usually not of interest



Example:

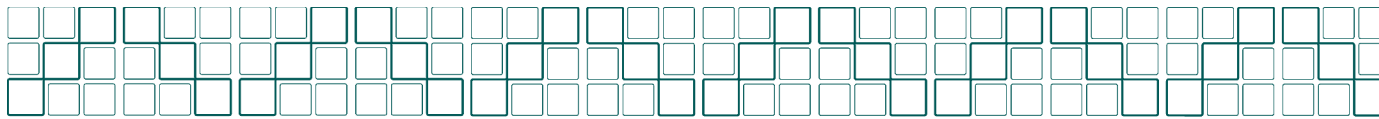
N.I.H. Intramural Research and Training Research Fellow. Institute of Irreproducible Results, Dr. Harley Q. Schmedlap, Section Head Honcho.

The laboratory focuses on the long term effects of attending boring oral presentations on brain function. My specific project assesses the location and extent of neuronal death due to exposure to lectures in undergraduate Organic Chemistry. I am examining brain biopsies taken from undergraduate Chemistry, English, and General Studies (negative control group) majors, identifying any structural differences in the CNS neurons. Exposure to Organic Chemistry lectures significantly increases cell death in the frontal lobes.



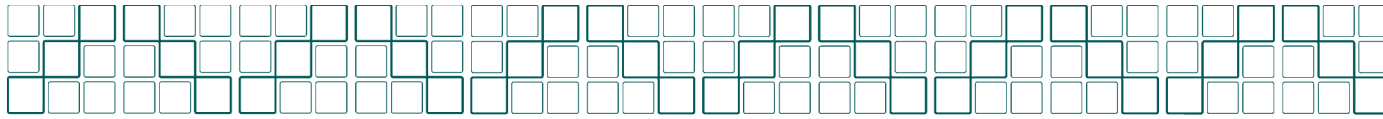
Publications

- Full citation with all authors
- Categories:
 - Published
 - In Press
 - Submitted
 - In preparation
 - Ask letter writer to confirm



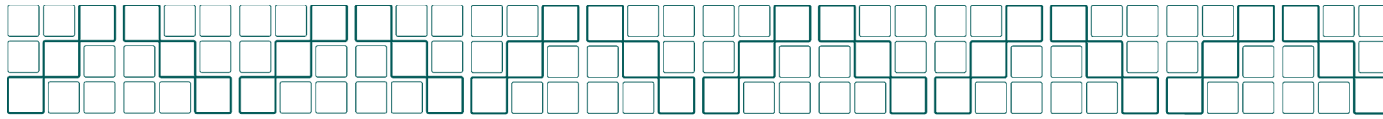
A word about the level of detail

- Familiar positions and tasks do not require elaboration
 - e. g., Residence Hall Assistant position
 - How many residents, etc.
 - But do mention you were selected!

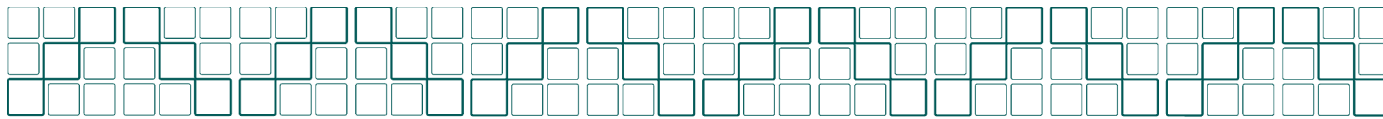


Attaching the significance and relationship to medicine

- Your choice.....
- If you do, be brief, specific, and clear.
e. g., Clinical or research experiences

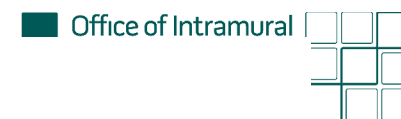
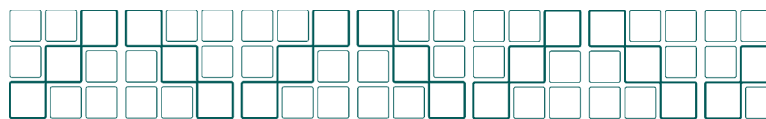


Now select (or confirm your choice of) the most meaningful three.....



Editing

- You must edit and revise!
 - Consistent style, verb tense, and format
 - Active voice, positive statements, without empty or needless words
 - Read it aloud!
 - Print it out and check the appearance and format



AMCAS 2009 APPLICANT CHECKLIST

The End

<http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/2009applicantchecklist.pdf>

In order to ensure minimal delays in the processing of your AMCAS application, please be sure to follow the steps in this checklist. Each step is listed in the chronological order:

- Reviewed the minimum admissions requirements of the medical schools in which I am interested. ☐
- Reviewed the deadline dates, for each of my designated medical schools, to make sure my application and transcripts are received on time. ☐
- Reviewed my transcripts prior to submitting official copies to AMCAS. ☐
- Entered all course work, grades, etc. exactly as they appear on my transcripts (AMCAS will not enter any course work for me). ☐
- Typed essay(s) directly into the appropriate fields on the AMCAS application (formatting errors resulting from "cutting and pasting" essay are not reversible). ☐
- Proofread application prior to submitting to AMCAS. ☐
- Checked application welcome page for successful submission (status will no longer be "Not Transmitted") ☐
- Mailed transcript request form to each school I attended.
List schools: ☐
- Received e-mail receipt from AMCAS for transcript(s).
List schools: ☐
- Received Processed e-mail from AMCAS and reviewed my verified course work for accuracy. (In addition to the e-mail, applicants can also check their status on the application welcome page 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.) ☐